## Message

From: Washington, Benjamin [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=08C0A6A6EE7E4657A016CFB460AB570D-WASHINGTON,]

**Sent**: 4/8/2020 8:01:07 PM

To: Washington, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdc3e8ce9f1d45c4894881ff420ca104-Washington, John]

**Subject**: RE: Science manuscript status

Thanks for all your hard work

From: Washington, John < Washington. John@epa.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, April 8, 2020 3:59 PM

To: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) McCord, James <mccord.james@epa.gov>; Strynar, Mark <Strynar.Mark@epa.gov>; Lindstrom, Andrew <Lindstrom.Andrew@epa.gov>; Bergman, Erica <erica.bergman@dep.nj.gov>; Goodrow, Sandra <Sandra.Goodrow@dep.nj.gov>; Tadesse, Haile <tadesse.haile@epa.gov>; Pilant, Drew <Pilant.Drew@epa.gov>; Washington, Benjamin <Washington.Benjamin@epa.gov>; Davis, Mary J. <davis.maryj@epa.gov>; Stuart, Brittany <Stuart.Brittany@epa.gov>; Thomas M Jenkins < Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) >

Subject: Science manuscript status

Hi coauthors,

Mark asked about status of our submission and I have been planning to let you all know.

**Short answer:** The manuscript we submitted December 31, 2019 still officially is in review on April 8, 2020.

## Longer elaboration:

- 1) After Mark sleuthed out the minor change in the molecular structure, I notified the editor. The editor did not seem too concerned and replied with this: "This Solvay paper seems to be fairly significant in the context of the claim that they didn't disclose the structures you uncovered . . . I think for that reason, it would be much clearer to go back to the reviewers with all the proper structures depicted in the figures."
- 2) So when I addressed the reviewers' comments (which you all have received), I also changed all figures as appropriate and added the references for the minor structural modification. I resubmitted our manuscript on March 18 (attached here) and had this response: "I'd like to go back to at least one or two reviewers here before proceeding, but I'll try to get feedback quickly."
- 3) I also inquired about submitting possible artwork for the cover (instruction to authors indicates the Science staff entertain this). Here was the editor's response: "When I hear back from the reviewers, we'll go through one more clean-up round if necessary, where you'll have a chance to upload additional files through the website."
- 3) In the last week or so we drafted cover art to be considered at Science (philosophy on this: maybe 1% chance of success, but 0% if we don't try). Considering possibly short review time and protracted clearance time, we submitted the drafts for clearance thru management up to Jennifer O-Z, then thru OPA. The cleared drafts are attached and being cleaned up right now by Haile, Emily Smith and Carrie Holz.
- 4) The editor has updated our submission portal twice since our resubmission -- the last time on Monday. I cannot see what the updates are, but guessed they were reviews being returned.
- 5) Between corona and this 1/3 year submission, this is really getting old.

Thanks for your patience, John

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